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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 30TH APRIL.

DEMONSTRATIONS have been held for three nights consecutively at Nancy in honour of General Boulanger. The authorities had to summon the aid of the cavalry to disperse the Boulangists. President Carnot, speaking at a banquet given him at Bordeaux censured those desiring to sow the seeds of discord in the country, and exhorted Frenchmen to union in order to combat the mischief.

THE new Indian sterling loan of £7,000,000 is in accordance with the East India (purchase and construction of Railways) Bill for the purchase of the Oudh and Rohilkund Railway, and to discharge debentures which are payable in the present year. A recent telegram announces that the tenders for the new loan amount to £10,800,000.

THE statement that his Holiness the Pope has resolved to condemn the plan of campaign and boycotting has caused a sensation in Ireland. The impending censure of the head of the Church has particularly excited the Nationalists. The Irish priesthood is silent. The parnellite members of the House of Commons are reticent, except the member for East Mayo, Mr. John Dillon, the originator of the plan of campaign, who defends it from the threatened Papal condemnation. The expected Papal Brief regarding boycotting and the plan of campaign has since been published. It directs the Roman Catholic Bishops of Ireland to prudently and effectually exhort their clergy and laity to abstain from taking part in boycotting and the plan of campaign, which his Holiness the Pope declares are contrary to the spirit of Christian charity.

THE negotiations for peace between Italy and Abyssinia have been resumed through the Chief of Kantibai at Aman. The first overtures of peace by King John on March 20th were made through the same Chief.

THE semi official *North German Gazette* in a leading article says that the Queen of England's late visit to Germany will influence most favourably the political relations between England and Germany.

THE French Chamber of Deputies has passed the Bill authorizing the Panama Canal Company to issue a lottery loan of 340,000,000 francs.

GREAT scarcity is prevalent in the neighbourhood of the Shan road and in the back districts along the plateau. Parents are reported to be selling their children for food.

A RUMOUR prevails at Kabul that the Russians are advancing from Charjui on the left bank of the Oxus, towards the Afghan frontier. It is possibly with the object of pushing the outposts to the new frontier line at Kham-i-Ab.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL will probably preside over the Parliamentary Committee on the Deccan Mining Company. Sir Richard Temple, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Maclean, Mr. J. P. B. Robertson, the Solicitor-General for Scotland, Sir Henry James, and Sir George Balfour, are named as probable members of the Committee.

THE Maharajah of Travancore has established a Legislative Council in his State.

THE broad-gauge section to complete the railway communication *via* the Bolan Pass by that gauge is being pushed forward, and is expected to be completed in four months from now. The steepest gradient will be 1 in 10, and the engineers are confident of the success of the project.

BURMAH is evidently far from satisfactorily settled yet. Lawlessness is reported to be breaking out in fresh places, and it is doubted whether it will be wise to reduce the military force in the country to the extent contemplated. A large military garrison will unquestionably be required for Burmah for some years to come, and the Government will not be wise to count upon an early release from financial obligations in that quarter.

MESSRS. MACKINNON MACKENZIE and Co. have submitted to Government a proposal to construct the line between Kalka and Ambala, stipulating, among other conditions, for a bonus for one year almost equal to the interest due on the capital employed while the line is under construction.

TUESDAY, 1ST MAY.

INFORMATION has reached the Government of India that Mr. A. Dalgleish, the well known Central Asian trade-traveller, has been shot between Karakorum and Whabzazilga, on the way to Yarkund, by a Kahar Pathan. Mr. Dalgleish's body is being brought to Leh for burial. No further particulars have been received.

THE Government of India has ruled that a military officer receiving a consolidated salary is liable to income tax on any portion of his salary.

THE conversion of the Nagpur-Chhatisgarh State Railway from the metre gauge to broad is being rapidly carried out by the engineers of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company. The rails on the standard gauge have now been laid five miles beyond Raipur, thus enabling heavy material trains to work along nearly 200 miles of the line.

KING Leopold, who reigns supreme over a portion of the Dark Continent, has ruled that all dealers in alcoholic liquors above Inkissi River, an affluent of the Congo, must pay 500 dollars for a license. "Trade rum" is absolutely prohibited, and drunkenness is punished with death, except in the case of white men, who are immediately deported when found drunk in public.

MR. BRAJENDRA NATH DE, C. S., having obtained the degree of honor in Persian in the 1st Division, has been presented with the authorized donation of Rs. 4,000.

WE learn Mr. Dadabhai Nowroji is quite popular in the Eastern Division of Finsbury, which he will shortly be allowed to contest in the Liberal interest. He has been speaking to large audiences about India and its condition. Many sympathizers with the Indian people are said to wish him a pronounced success.

LORD AND LADY GALWAY propose to visit India in autumn, and will remain in the country during the winter months. The object of the journey is to return the recent visit of the Rajah of Cooch Behar who was delighted by his hunting experiences with the Grove Hounds.

THE Jubilee gifts offered to the Pope have been valued by experts, and, including the money presents, they are estimated at nearly four millions sterling. The monks of the Chartreuse sent £20,000 in gold, and one of the most valuable gifts is the large ring presented by the Sultan which contains a magnificent and very large diamond.

PRINCE Bismarck's paper-mill at Varzin, which was burnt last year, has been rebuilt at a cost of £50,000 and is now one of the most complete establishments of its kind in Germany. It is lighted throughout by electricity, and the daily production averages fifteen tons. Prince Bismarck realizes enormous profits every year from this paper-mill, and also from his Varzin distillery, and from the sales of timber in the extensive forests round Friedrichsruh. The Prince is the greatest timber merchant in Northern Germany, after the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

THE AMIR was expected to reach Kabul on the 23rd ultimo. At the conclusion of his stay in the Laghman Valley he dismissed the various Khans to their homes and sent back Gholam Hyder, his Commander-in-Chief, to Jellalabad to superintend the preparations for the expedition up the Kunar Valley. No movements are to be made until the termination of Ramzan, the month of fasting. Gholam Hyder's plan is, nominally, to push troops right up to the borders of Kafiristan with the assistance of various local petty chiefs, and to punish the Siah Posh clans if they venture to show fight. The real object of the expedition is the subjugation of Jandol and Nawagai in Bajaur which can best be attempted from the Kunar direction.

A GREAT public meeting to protest against the continuance of the ungodly system of licensed sin in India will be held at Exeter Hall, London, on May 18th. A petition has been despatched to the House of Commons from Bombay, praying for the total repeal of the C. D. Acts. The second signature on that petition was "George Bowen, Minister, Methodist Episcopal Church, and Editor *Bombay Guardian*."

WEDNESDAY, 2ND MAY.

A SMALL expeditionary force will, it is said, probably be sent in the autumn to the Chittagong Hill Tracts to punish those concerned in the murder of the late Lieutenant Steuart and his comrades. Nothing, however, is settled in the matter, but the opportunity will probably be taken, should an expedition go, to throughly survey these hills with a view to ascertain the possibility of establishing land communications across them to Burmah. It is necessary that the barrier which the hill tribes present between India and that country should be broken down, and to do this they must be brought under control.

To the current number of the *Asiatic Quaterly Review* Mr. Holt Hallett contributes an article on "France and England in Eastern Asia." He remarks that "For sixty-two years we have been neighbours of Siam and its Shan States. For sixty-two years we have done nothing towards developing our trade with them. Not a railway, not even a road, has been made to our Eastern frontier. We have followed a policy of exclusion from our Eastern neighbours." The want of a railway is recognised and trade demands it. In 1885 the French exports to China were valued at £160,000, while those from the United Kingdom and British India amounted to £23,456,846. Other satistics are given in relation to commerce, distances, and the possibilities open to English enterprise. "Only by the construction of the Burmah-Siam-China Railway," says Mr. Hallett, "can we obtain the trade of South-Western China. It will be a disastrous blunder if, from procrastination, want of foresight, want of backbone, or from a peny-wise-pound-foolish policy, we allow that trade to pass into the hands of our French rivals."

Nature gives the following list of ages to which birds generally live. It has been observed that many birds, such as the eagle, the swan, and the raven, live more than a century. The parrot, the heron, the goose and the pelican have been known to reach 60 years, the peacock 25, the pigeon 20, the crane 20, the goldfinch 15, the lark 13, the black bird 12, the canary 21, the pheasant 13, the thrush 10, the robin, 12 and the wren only 8.

THE assistants of the Foreign Office who accompanied Sir J West Ridgeway on the Afghan Boundary Commission, a contemporary hears, are to receive a bonus for the excellent services rendered by them while on duty with the Commission.

CONFLICTS between Christians and Musulmans in Crete, and various differences connected with Macedonia, are causing tension in the relations between Greece and Turkey. The Porte has appointed Sartinsky Effendi as Governor of Crete, the former Governor having been recalled.

IT is not Bengal alone that is suffering from unprecidented visits of storms. It is reported that a terrific storm visited Moradabad on Monday, uprooting nearly all the trees, unroofing almost every bungalow, and killing 150 natives. The hail stones were of unusual size. A similar storm, though less violent, visited Delhi on the following afternoon.

THE Nizam's Government will be represented at the Parliamentary enquiry about the Haidrabad Mining concessions. Maulvi Mehdi Ali, Mr. Furidunji, and Babu Gya Persad have been deputed to England by the Minister of Haidarabad to represent the Government in the enquiry. The deputation started on twelve hours' notice, and leave India by Friday's mail steamer. Mr. Jardine and Mr. Edgelow, who have been working up the papers for the Nizam's Government, have returned to Bombay. It is said His Highness personally takes little or no interest in the matter.

THE proposed Merchandise Marks Act for India will be very largely supported by all sections of the mercantile community. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce and other mercantile bodies in England have urged upon the Secretary of State the advantages of getting the measure passed, and in this country the Bombay and Bengal Chambers have

similarly recommended the Government to pass a bill dealing with the question. Both in Manchester and in India the feeling on the subject is very strong. The last mail brings a report of a Committee of the Manchester Chamber on the false marking of piece-goods. The Committee regard the case with which they were dealing, "as an additional proof, if any were needed, why the Governor-General in Council should, as soon as may be, institute legislation for British India analogous to that which, during the last session of Parliament, produced the Merchandise Marks Act as a means of protecting honest trading in the United Kingdom." A Bombay cotton spinner writing to the *Manchester Guardian* says that he has "no hesitation in saying that a Merchandise Marks Act is required for this country. We should then all work on the same level as regards weights and measures, and we should have the satisfaction of knowing we were all honest, even if it is compulsory."

Thursday, 3rd May.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* says:—"Arrangements have been completed for changing the Egyptian frontier on the Red Sea, which will henceforth not extend beyond the Sinai Peninsula, all the forts on the east coast of the sea being unreservedly given up to Turkey. This will considerably lighten the burdens of the Egyptian War Office, and will at the same time be a source of pleasure to the Porte, which has hitherto been perpetually raising questions with regard to ElWady and other forts in the Bedjaz."

Among the stories told of the present Emperor of Germany is one relating to a railway journey from Potsdam. Just as he was about to get into the carriage reserved for him, he caught sight of an officer of his acquaintance. "We'll get in there," he said. "But, Your Imperial Highness," protested the astonished officer, "It's second class!" "What matters that?" laughed the Crown Prince, and catching hold of the door-handle, up he clambered, and the train moved off. On this a former tutor of the Prince says :—"Never shall I forget the face of horror with which the station-master rushed into his office to telegraph to the Berlin authorities that their future Emperor might shortly be expected to arrive travelling second-class."

A curious communication of particular interest to both sexes has just been made by M. Féré to the French Society of Biology. The doctor has discovered an electric woman! The name and address of this phenomenon are not given, probably to avoid her being got hold of by some enterprising Barnum. It appears that both her hair and body emit electric sparks. The electricity is more visible when the hair is combed. The hair then stands on an end. When she puts on her underclothing, its contact with her skin first produces a crepitation, then the clothes adhere as it were to the body, and finally her movements are partly paralyzed. These phenomena are particularly observable during dry and frosty weather. The electric tension also increases under the influence of emotions—such, for example, as the effect of music, which augments the crepitation. This extraordinary creature, however, is not unique Dr. Legué mentioned the case of a woman who during an aurora borealis was suddenly charged with electricity, which manifested itself when she passed her finger over the face of her brother; she remained electric for two months. Another instance of a similar kind is reported by Argo. In all these cases the patients are described as of sickly disposition, subject to nervous or hysterical attacks. In the Middle Ages they would have been burnt for being possessed with the devil, now they are tended and petted as scientific wonders.

Cars driven by the Mekarski compressed air engine are now being run on the London Street Tramways Company's line between Holloway Road and King's Cross. The air is compressed at a station, and stored in reservoirs which are placed under the cars, each charge allowing of a run of ten or twelve miles. The cars are fitted with air brakes, which enable them to be stopped in a little over their own length.

An instrument, called the autographometer, has lately been devised, which autographically records the plan of the ground over which it is dragged. It can be carried about on a light vehicle, and when in use indicates topography and differences of level of all places over which it passes.

After a protracted trial Mr. William O'Brien M.P., has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for attempting to address the proclaimed meeting of the National League at Loughera on Sunday, the 8th ultimo.

A Commission composed of Lala Ghanza Lal, Babu Rishi Bur, Mirza Akbar Beg, Dewan Janki Prashad, Dewan Budri Nath, Baj Singh, Wazir Shib Saran, and Gopal Chunder, has been appointed by the Cash-mere Durbar for trying Dewan Luchman Dass for charges brought against him, Lala Ghanza Lal and Mirza Akbar Beg being the prosecutors. The Commission commenced the inquiry on the 21st.

Friday, 4th May.

During the month of April 1888, thirty-seven thousand eight hundred and forty-six persons visited the Indian Museum. Of natives there were 29,525 males and 7,814 females, and of Europeans 387 males and 120 females. The daily average number of visitors for the 22 days on which the Museum was open to the general public was 1,719.

A record of the Archæological Survey of India is to be published quarterly. It will contain the text and translations of Indian inscriptions in Pali, Sanskrit, Arabic, and Persian; catalogues of inscriptions arranged by districts, with notes of their contents and references to published translations, notices of treasure trove finds, coins, sanads, &c., notes on prehistoric remains; Anthropology; methods of practical archæology in different branches; Indian architecture; historical geography, history of Indian research, progress for the survey, &c., &c. It will be edited by Dr. Jas. Burgess, c. i. e., with the assistance of—A. Fuhrer, Ph. D., Assistant Surveyor, North Westeren Provinces and Oudh; E. Hultzsch, Ph. D., Epigraphist to the Archæological Survey, Madras; Alex. Rea, m. r. a. s, Archæological Surveyor, Southern India, and Henry Cousens, m. r. a. s., Archæological Surveyor, Western India, and others.

Mr. Mackenzie, the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, has drawn up a tolerably complete scheme for instruction in drawing: so that whenever a Central Technical Institute is founded, the ordinary schools will be able to send up pupils in a position to take advantage of its curriculum. Provision for drawing had already been made in three out of the five High Schools in the Province; and Mr. Mackenzie has now sanctioned the appointment of a drawing master in one of the remaining two. The 34 Middle Schools which require masters cannot, of course, be all supplied at once; but in one or two cases this is to be done, and it is hoped that as the Central Provinces students qualify, appointments may be made on lower salaries than at present. The suggestion that in some cases it may be possible to arrange for drawing to be taught by the ordinary staff should not be regarded as more than a temporary provision. By a revised curriculum drawing is also made compulsory in Lower Primary Schools, optional in Middle; the object of this being to compel the ascertainment of a boy's aptitudes, and at the same time avoid keeping him for years at work for which he is unsuited. As regards physical science Mr. Mackenzie takes his cue from the Calcutta University, with which the Central Provinces High Schools are affiliated, and in future the primers compulsory for Entrance candidates will be taught in all these schools. Besides this Mr. Mackenzie contemplates instruction in the elements of agricultural science and engineering. The latter will at first be for the most part optional; but the former will be included in the regular curriculum of the higher classes of vernacular schools.

In recognition of Mr. Vishwanath Mandlik's services, a memorial fund has been established, out of the proceeds of which an annual prize is to be given to the best writer of an essay on some subject connected with Sanskrit literature.

Among the students who recently obtained a diploma in the Women's Medical College, New York, it is said that Miss Kin Yami, a Chinese girl, took the first place. This lady reads and writes five different languages with the greatest ease.

On Maundy-Thursday the Emperor of Austria went through the annual ceremony of washing the feet of twelve old men. In former times the ceremony was double, as the Empress washed the feet of twelve old women; but of late years her Majesty's health has not permitted her to endure the fatigues of this function. The ceremonial takes place in the throne room of the Palace, and is preceded by the serving of a meal in four courses to the almsmen. The dishes are placed on the table and removed by the Emperor and the Archdukes. There is no eating, but the dishes, plates, glasses, napkins, and covers are all placed in boxes, emblazoned with the Imperial arms, and these are carried to the residences of the old men. A prayer is then intoned, and the right leg of each man being bared by Court servants, the Emperor kneels, and pours a little water cut of a golden basin over each man's foot, and concludes his pious office by hanging a purse full of coins round every old man's neck. The eldest of the old men was ninety-two and the youngest eighty-seven, their combined ages amounting to one thousand and fifty-four.

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Saturday, 5th May.

A contemporary writes:—For months a gentleman had been confined to a dark room suffering from an attack of ophthalmia. The symptoms became so severe that it was feared that the patient would be deprived of his sight. An unexpected visitor in the shape of a wasp found his way into the sick-room, where he perched himself on the foot of the invalid, and there, in order that his presence should be known, made a puncture. The enfeebled condition of the patient made the pain thus caused to appear tenfold worse than it would ordinarily have done, but instantaneous relief was granted to the inflammation about the eyes. In twelve hours from the time that the puncture was made, the sick man was convalescent, and he has had no relapse.

Phonographs of sorts we have heard of any time these twelve years; but they have met with only partial success. 'The new invention of Mr. Edison, on the contrary, is able to reproduce the faintest variation in the human voice: even the playing of a whole orchestra can be so accurately given that the music of each individual instrument can be clearly distinguished, and a single false note detected. The receiving part of the instrument marks off on a piece of tinfoil impressions corresponding to the sounds uttered, and this foil can then be removed, to be either retained for future use, or sent by post to any distance. Put this roll of tinfoil into a similar phonograph and the exact sounds are reproduced, so that a correspondent in India can have his message repeated, literally word for word, in England. Moreover, the piece of tinfoil can be used over and over again until it is worn out, so that the concerts of the future will contain "songs by the great singers of the past," and Patti's notes may delight our descendants 200 years hence. One or two of these phonographs have been used to report law cases in America, where they are said to have completely beaten the short-hand writer.'

The total number of deaths registered during the week ending 28th April was 240 against 236 and 232 in the two preceding weeks, and lower than the corresponding week of last year by 52. There were 69 deaths from cholera, against 73 and 59 in the two preceding weeks; the number is less than the average of the past quinquennium by 2. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 48 and 19 respectively, against 55 and 20 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 28·9 per mille per annum, against 29·0, the mean of the last five years.

A serious revolt has occurred in North Borneo endangering the British settlement there. The town of Batua has been burned.

The Government of India in declining to sanction the raising of a loan by the Bombay Municipality for the Tansa water scheme, for sixty years, lays down the rule that Municipal loans should not be for periods longer than forty years.

Recent experiments with carrier pigeons have been so successful that it has been decided to establish a permanent postal service of them in the Russian army. Depots are to be established at once at certain specified fortresses and other places, and the whole are to be divided into four divisions, corresponding to the same number of lines of communication. For each line of communication there are to be 250 carrier pigeons, making a grand total of 1,000 birds.

A remarkable invention has been made in connection with the telephone by Lieutenant Boyer, of H. M. S. *Malabar*. This invention, which is both novel and ingenious, consists of a gong, in the centre of which is a telephone apparatus. An electrical connection by which taps can be delivered on the gong in varying sequence connects the ship's bridge with the apparatus, which is itself hung on the side of the ship, some six feet below the water-line. If two ships fitted with this telephone are within a few miles of each other, taps on the gong given by the one are received on the telephone of the other, and communicated by wire to the officer on the bridge This establishes a means of communication, the water being the connecting medium, and would be invaluable to an admiral in a fog or at night when the lamp signals might be indistinct.

One of the economical measures, recommended by the Public Service Commission, is the reduction of the pay of the Examiner of Marine Accounts. The Government has sanctioned the reduction of the initial pay of the Examiner from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 800 monthly. The order will not affect the existing incumbent.

Mr. G. Elsmie, officiating Financial Commissioner, Punjab, has been appointed a member of the Vi[illegible]regal Legislative Council.

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The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, MAY 7, 1888.

THE BIMETALLIC CONFERENCE.

A CONFERENCE promoted by the Bimetallic League was recently held at Manchester. The proceedings of this conference which was presided over by Mr. H. H. Gibbs, President of the League, and attended by a very large number of Manchester and commercial men including many M. P's., possess a pecular interest for India. The depreciation silver has seriously embarrassed our finances. To quote the words of M. Cernuschi, the eminent French economist: "The Indian Budget is disarranged, public works are countermanded, and all administrative and financial policy has no longer but one aim, to recover by reduction of expenditure what is lost by exchange." So long as the present uncertainty of silver continues, the gravity of the financial position in India will cause the most serious anxiety. There is no knowing that the rupee may not be brought down to one shilling in the course of a few years.

Mr. Gibbs, in opening the conference, clearly explained what it was that bimetallists were agitating for. As a large amount of misconception exists on the subject even among well-educated and well-informed persons, the explanation was greatly needed. Mr. Gibbs said: "What we want is an agreement with France, Germany and the United States, we and they accepting the principle of the restoration of the par between gold and silver, opening the mints and fixing a ratio. I mention these nations only because they alone would suffice, but would inevitably draw others in their train. I mention only the principle without specifying any ratio, because that is a detail which England cannot so well settle alone; it must be left for discussion with the other nations which would be willing to enter into a treaty with us." France, Germany and the United States are quite willing for entering into an agreement for restoring the par between gold and silver, and it is only the opposition that stands in the way of such an agreement. It is well known that at the monetary conference which met at Paris in 1881 the United States delegates presented a very practicable scheme for international bimetallic agreement, which would at once, if ratified, have restored the equilibrium of ratio between gold and silver. France, Germany and Italy were willing to join America in this union, provided that England would do so; but England obstinately refused to join it. Well does Mr. Samuel Smith say that it ought to be widely known, that it is only the opposition of England which stands in the way of the establishment of an international league. He justly remarks: "We, who of all nations suffer most from this monetary dislocation, are the people who stupidly oppose an arrangement that would render such a dislocation impossible." Mr. Gibbs pertinently told the British public that when they complain of declining prices, they complain in other words of a forced dislocation of the proportion that formerly existed between the measure of value in gold-using countries and the things measured. The consequence of this dislocation is that trade of all kinds suffers. "All this evil," observed Mr. Gibbs, "comes under your own observation, and is that which accordingly comes most of all to the front. But, I must repeat, it is the smallest part of the evil. If we were sure that the mischief would not go on increasing, prices might in time arrange themselves. But the main evil, the destruction of the par of exchange between silver-using and gold-using countries, will find no remedy in lapse of time, no remedy at all but an international agreement for a common monetary standard; and that is what we want. That is the thing for which we have to strive, and that is the thing we mean to get. Sir Robert Peel fell into a great, though not unnatural, mistake when he failed to follow the advice of Lord Ashburton, not perceiving that the advantages of our single gold standard were only attainable so long as other nations were willing to give it the support of their systems, and not foreseeing that a time might come when the collapse of their system would involve the gravest inconvenience to our own in the destruction of the par of exchange which existed only by their sufferance. It is for this generation to remedy his mistake, and now that Lancashire has taken up the matter, I think it will be remedied." It would be no easy task to overcome the stupid opposition of England to the establishment of an international bimetallic union. Englishmen delight in tainting the people of India with their conservatism. The Indians, though averse to change, are quite willing to adopt any innovation whose material advantages are satisfactorily establishing. But the English people do not give up their opposition to a change even though its benefits are proved to demonstration.

After the delivery of the President's opening address, Mr. Samuel Smith, M. P., read a very able and interesting paper on "the Beneficial effects on Trade and Industry of the Remonetization of Silver." He clearly showed that the rupture of the bimetallic system which occurred in 1873-74 led to the heavy decline in silver measure by gold, and as a consequence to the enormous fall in prices in all countries using a gold standard. He also pointed out that silver-using countries had altogether escaped the evils which had affected British trade. Mr. Smith said:—"The frightful loss which the Indian Government sustains in meeting its gold obligations in London is threatening it with bankruptcy. It is obvious that it cannot embark with safety upon further railway extension, seeing that the capital can only be raised in England upon gold interest. The same cause will make it most difficult for China to develop its natural resources with European capital. That country might beneficially employ hundreds of millions of foreign capital and give employment to millions of work-people in Europe; but what Government in China can safely raise loans in Europe payable in gold, while it collects its own revenue in silver? The same cause affects the South American States, and, indeed, much the larger part of the world—just that part which is the natural outlet for British capital and energy. The trade of Great Britain would always be largely with the undeveloped silver-using countries. These markets are open to us on equal terms with all other nations, and we hold them by the cheapness of our production." Mr. Smith proved to demonstration that the restoration of the old bimetallic system would give a fresh impetus to the national prosperity of England. He was followed by Professor J. S. Nicholsars who showed that the joint standard is consistent with sound Political Economy. The learned Professor urged that it was high time that England should join with other nations in the restoration of the state of things in which once more the precious metal would do their work with a calm monotony of circulation. He did not hesitate to say that with a joint standard money would be, as it ought to be, the mere medium of exchange instead of the regulator of trade, and the mere measure of values instead of a breaker of covenants. Sir H. Meysey-Thompson, who, as a railway director and a director of public companies, had exceptional opportunities of studying the matter, remarked with perfect justice that the question of the currency was essentially a working-man's question. He pointed out that the English capitalist could send his money out of the country to put up cotton mills or grow wheat in India, but the operative and the labourer from England could not follow. Mr. H. Cooke, President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, declared that his personal knowledge of trade in the East had led him to conclude that the practical result of the demonetization of silver had been to ruin and bring disaster upon the trade of England and to leave India where she was. Mr. Stephen Williamson M. P., submitted a paper explaining the hindrance to trade between gold and silver-using countries caused by the existing monetary laws. He observed:—"When the metallic basis was the same between two countries, it was true there were sometimes slight and unimportant fluctuations in exchange, caused by the greater or less abundance of money. This, however, could be guarded against. But as matters now stand, between purely silver-using countries and our own there is no basis whatever for sound calculation. These hindrances to legitimate business act as a stimulant to the setting-up of manufacturing industries in silver-using countries." Mr. J. C. Fielden dealt with the subject as it affected the working classes, and showed that, since 1874, the loss arising from the present standard of currency had been enormous in the way of reducing wages and causing want of employment. Altogether the conference was a great success, and it was conclusively established that the rehabilitation of silver would promote the prosperity of England.

OFFICIAL TOURS.

The Government of Bengal has recently recorded an important Resolution regarding the tours of District and Sub-divisional officers. The reader will recollect that when Sir Ashley Eden was at the head of affairs in this Province he directed that the tours of Sub-divisional officers should extend to at least four months' duration, instead of three months, the period formerly fixed. In reviewing the General Adminstration Reports of Divisions, Sir Ashley always noted with great care whether District and Sub-divisional officers had passed the periods fixed by Government under canvas in the interior of their respective territorial jurisdictions. If any officer was found wanting in this respect he was at once called upon to furnish an explanation, and if he could show good reasons for his failure, he was severely censured. District and Sub-divisional officers whose tours did not extend to the periods fixed by Government, were always warned that they must not neglect duty in this respect. Sir Rivers Thompson followed the same course, in reviewing the General Administration Reports of Divisions.

The present Lieutenant-Governor has reversed the orders issued by Sir Ashley Eden that the tours of Sub-divisional officers should extend to at least four months' duration. It appears that, in reviewing the results of 1886-87, Mr. Wilson, the late officiating Commissioner of Burdwan, and Mr. Oldham, the Magistrate of that district, represented that the period which collectors were under the rules in force, bound to spend in the interior of their districts, was ninety days; that, if properly spent, that period was sufficient for the necessary work of inspection and that a more prolonged absence from head-quarters interfered very seriously with the judicial work of Sub-divisional officers. The other Commissioners of Divisions were called upon for an expression of their views on the question raised by Mr. Wilson. The reports received from the Commissioners have convinced Sir Steuart Bayley that the tours of Sub-divisional officers may be curtailed with advantage. His Honor has accordingly directed, in supersession of all former orders, that in future these tours shall not, without special sanction, be of shorter duration than ninety days. Collectors frequently extend their tours beyond the period required by rule, and the Government expects that Sub-divisional officers will do so also, when the public interests require it, and particularly when they first take charge of a Sub-division. The resolution of the Bengal Government then goes on to say "complaints are frequently made that Sub-divisional officers so arrange their work as to render it necessary for large parties of mukhtears and clerks to follow their camps. It may not always be possible to avoid this inconvenience, but it should be distinctly recognised that the attendance of a number of persons from head-quarters, having no concern in the work of inspection, is injurious to the objects with which these tours are undertaken. Sub-divisional officers should endeavour to do as much of their regular case work as possible at head-quarters, employing themselves while on tour in making local enquiries. The utility of a Sub-divisional officer's tour for inspection purposes, and the extent to which it can be carried without interruption to business, or inconvenience to the public, must depend greatly on the skill with which it is planned: the object in view can be obtained only by very

careful arrangements, distributing the time to be spent in the interior between the different seasons of the year, and avoiding any very protracted absence from head-quarters."

The curtailment of the tours of Sub-divisional officers is certainly a move in the right direction. The Lieutenant-Governor rightly holds that the objects with which these tours are undertaken should always be carefully kept in view, and very protracted absence from head-quarters should be avoided. The same remarks apply with equal force to the tours of Collectors and Commissioners As matters now stand the tours of these officers are looked upon as pleasant shooting excursions, and nothing more. Englishmen are, as a rule, fond of out-door sports and *shikar*; and this is one of the reasons why they like the executive branch of the service in preference. The objects with which official tours were originally prescribed were very good. It was considered most desirable that Commissioners and District Officers should make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the real state of things existing in their respective divisions and districts. But he would be a bold man who would venture to say that the tours of Commissioners and District Officers are utilized in the way the Government intended that they should be. So far from these tours doing any good to the people, they involve the infliction of much hardship and oppression upon the poor villagers, for whom supplies are levied and labour is exacted in many cases without payment, or, any rate, without adequate payment. We earnestly hope this subject will receive the Lieutenant-Governor's careful consideration.

TIME FOR 'HOLDING UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

In an well-argued minute on this "difficult and perplexing" subject, Sir Alfred Croft observes that no plan that has been suggested seems to be free from objection. It is not in the nature of things possible that any plan should be so. We must, therefore, rest content with a plan in which the elements of objection have been reduced to a minimum. To our mind the plan suggested by Sir Alfred seems to be the least open to objection and should be adopted by the University. Old graduates remember with no very pleasant feelings that in their days the examinations used to be held in March, when Calcutta had no pipe-water, no drainage and no scientific whole-time Health Officer to keep off cholera from their midst. The cold weather examinations which followed continued to be very popular till objection was taken to them on the score of the undesirability of giving up to examination that part of the year which is supposed to be the best time for "work." What the "work" may be that cannot be done but in the bracing winter months has never, so far as we are aware, been clearly explained. By far the most arduous work that the student has to do is the final preparation for his examination, call it "cram" if you will. So long as young men will be what they are, this kind of work will be inevitable, and it is cruel to allow this work to run on into the hot weather, and to wind up the whole thing with a twelve days' examination in March or April. The "work" of preparation for the examination itself should be arranged to be finished before the hot weather sets in. The advocates for "work" took a distinctly retrograde measure in resorting to the April system, in their anxiety to utilise the "best time for the purposes of class lectures." The candidate should have October, November, December and January for what is admittedly the most arduous portion of his work, namely, the final preparation for his examination, and his examination ought to be finished by February.

The "April system," as Sir Alfred Croft points out, has been generally condemned after three years' experience, on the ground that by giving only one paper a day the "agony" of the candidates is "prolonged", and that they are rendered specially liable to attacks of illness. The force of these objections to the hot weather system was made manifest during the last B. L. Examination for which two papers a day had been arranged as usual. The candidates for the examination memorialized the Syndicate regarding the utter unsuitability of the arrangement and the syndicate felt the force of their objections and had to resort to the one-paper-a-day system. But even this concession was not found enough to ensure the health and convenience of the candidates. Several candidates had bad attacks of cholera and other diseases of a similar type and were disabled from attending the examination, and others had actually to carry their beds and pillows to the examination hall, and stretched at full length had to undergo the trying ordeal. These results were mainly due to the effects of the season. No power on earth can prevent the anxious candidate carrying on his studies to the small hours of the morning as the examination approaches, and the only wonder is that March and April examinations have not been attended with worse sanitary results than has fortunately been the case.

The one-paper-a-day-April-examination has given way to the two-paper-a-day-March-examination. But that, too, as might be expected, has failed to give satisfaction. March is not cold weather, although a contemporary would have us understand that it is so, since the Viceroy can still remain in the plains. This argument, if carried to its logical conclusion, would show that May is not hot weather, since His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has not yet gone to Darjiling. And if the Viceroy should ever remain in the plains all the year round, there will be no hot weather in India in the light of this admirable logic. There can be no doubt that two papers a day cannot be given in March without serious inconvenience. It is also well known that the colleges and schools cannot be closed in March for the vacation and that the intervening period of one month before the vacation begins is too brief for serious work. February examinations, on the other hand, would give two clear months before the summer holidays would commence and there would be ample time to commence the work of the season in right earnest. As for the objection to February examinations that examiners will have to look over the papers "concurrently with their ordinary college duties which would involve too severe a strain," we do not think it is entitled to much weight. The merits and demerits of a particular system must not be made to depend on the convenience or otherwise of a small class of men. We regret that Sir Alfred Croft examines the question principally from the standpoint of the hill-schools. These schools form a very small proportion of the candidates that annually go up for our University examinations and their convenience cannot very materially influence the arrangement that may be thought convenient for and suitable to the majority of our students.

As for the proposal for double examination it must be dismissed without any serious consideration. The idea is to have two examinations a year, one in November and one in April, and to let schools and colleges make their choice to which of the two they will send candidates Sir Alfred rightly points out that the inconvenience which the University would suffer from having to undertake two sets of examinations—involving double examiners, double printing of questions in England, double distribution of papers, double arrangements at centres—would be such as greatly to outweigh the advantages which a few schools would derive from the arrangement. By the arrangement now proposed, the inconvenience to these schools will, it is anticipated, be reduced to a minimum.

There can, on the other hand, be no doubt that to a November examination there are many objections. In the first place, if it begins early in November, it follows too close on the great national festival, which would thus interrupt the final period of study at the most critical time. If held late in November, it is open to all those objections long since felt as to breaking up the cold-weather term by examinations. Lastly, a November examination would involve for two years an entire disruption of the collegiate system, until the new college terms had become established. On the other hand, the transition from the 5th March 1888 to (say) the 11th February 1889 could be effected without any appreciable inconvenience.

The only serious objection to a February examination that Sir Alfred Croft can think of is that as the applications have to be sent in to the Registrar about the beginning of January, the candidates for examination will from about that time cease to attend lectures in order to get up their subjects in private. Consequently, if the college term begins in June, the second and fourth-year students will have only six months' lectures, interrupted moreover by the Durga Puja holidays. That evil can, however, be easily obviated. The colleges will generally be closed for a week while the examinations are being held. When they re-open, about the 15th or 20th of February, the first and third-year classes should be promoted to be the second and fourth; and thus they will have a term of two months, and also the long vacation, in which to enter on their work for the examination. It certainly would have the effect of promoting private study amongst honour students; and to students generally the Professors might very well intimate that they would be expected to have read a certain assigned portion of their work by the time the classes re-opened. Thus for February, March and April, there would be no first or third-year students, except, indeed, such as had failed to obtain promotion to the second and fourth-year; and to them the Professors might hold out the hope of subsequent promotion on the re-opening of the College in June, if they showed that they had made diligent use of the intervening time. In June, therefore, the Colleges would re-open with a full complement of classes; of which the new first and third years would read until the following February, when they would become the second and fourth; and the second and fourth years would read until the end of December, when they would generally cease attending lectures, and begin their private preparation. This is what the students are found in fact to do by choice; but of course there is nothing to prevent the lectures being continued up to the middle or end of January should the students require them. But even the promotion of first and third year students to the second and fourth years before the sessions actually commenced would not be necessary. Since the curriculum would be exactly the same, it would not make much difference whether the students occupied one particular room in the college building, or another, and their lectures might go on all the same whether they were promoted or not. So long as the results of the University Examinations are not out one or other of the classes must be empty, and it really does not matter at all which happens to be so. Taking all these things into consideration we are disposed to think with Sir Alfred Croft, that the University Examinations should be held in February, and not in March as at present.

THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Are we daily having our material resources strengthened and enriched, or are we on the contrary becoming daily impoverished? That is a question which statists and economists in this country have been constantly asking themselves without ever being able to give a correct and satisfactory answer, although in the solution of no other single question the public can possibly be more deeply interested. Sir William Hunter's view on the question, though not endorsed by the *bona fide* official world, is accepted as the true one throughout the country. On the strength of unimpeachable statistics, collected by Government order and through Government machinery, Sir William Hunter was able to give it as his deliberate opinion, that millions of people in this country are passing through a state of chronic starvation and cannot literally afford two full and hearty meals a day. The condition of these people becomes miserable in the extreme whenever there is the slightest indication of a famine. Railways and telegraphs, Schools and dispensaries, Courts and Police stations you might multiply ever so much, without being able to override stern and unimpeach-

able facts regarding the impoverishment of the people, and in their face he would be a bold man indeed who would roundly aver that the people are in a prosperous state.

The official world never forgave Sir William Hunter his outspoken opinion and put him down for an eccentric man. It became an accepted creed with that world to wage a never-ending crusade against Sir William's opinion which, they thought, cast a slur on their administration; and they accordingly felt bound to sing out in time and out of tune peans in its praise and to try to show how marvellously and unprecedentally prosperous the people are under it. The Administration Report of Bengal for the last year now before the public treads closely on the heels of its predecessors. It contains the stereotyped statement that the people are happy and prosperous. The art of Secretariat varnishing lends all its charms and the illusion is complete. There never were a people on the face of the earth more prosperous, happy and contented than the people of Bengal. That is the general tenor of the report year after year, though the actual words used in describing the economic condition may not be as plain and direct. We are no advocates of any all-round system of praise or censure, and shall not misrepresent facts by roundly asserting that nothing contained in these official descriptions of our material prosperity is true. Certain classes of the lower orders do well enough no doubt in these days, when, thanks to English enterprise, mills are springing up in all directions. It is notorious that in the proximity of these mills labour is enormously dear, and servants are not available for private residents and employés except on very high wages. The story of prosperity must, however, rest there, and becomes absolutely untrue when indiscriminately applied to the labouring classes in general, to our artisans and our agriculturists, and particularly to our middle classes, whose sufferings and woes are never embodied in the rosy pages of Secretariat Reports.

And what after all is the standard of comfort and prosperity fixed by these Reports? In the last Report, for example, we are told as the first best thing that in Orissa the out-turn of the rice-crop was said to have been more abundant than in any of the preceding years. That by itself may no doubt be much and yet go no great way. The last ten years might have been, as some of them as a matter of fact undoubtedly were, years of suffering, famine and privation, and a small improvement on such a state of things assuredly does not convey an idea of inordinate prosperity. In the second place we are told that an appreciable advance in the standard of comfort was noticed in portions of the Burdwan Division, where the cultivators were represented to have not only been able to pay off old debts, but also to lay by something for future need. That reads well no doubt. But herein are contained two distinct propositions which we must separately notice. In the first place we would ask what the standard of comfort may be that can be allowed to be indicative of anything approaching prosperity. Any one who had been to the interior of the district must know that the agricultural classes make use of household furniture and utensils that would shame the poorest and filthiest cottager in the north of Scotland, even when he may not be enjoying his Saturday night. Two coarse 4 yard Manchester *dhooties* are all his year's wardrobe, and a handful of fried rice and a small quantity of molasses are luxuries which he cannot afford to allow his little children twice a day. The middle classes with their large social demands fare much worse indeed, and what the Report vaguely describes as "an appreciable advance in the standard of comfort" must be very considerable indeed to bring them up to a state of prosperity. But not the most sanguine of officials would care to risk his reputation by urging that anything approaching that state has been attained.

But the best of all stories is that in the Presidency Division the condition of the people was 'described' as "*unusually* prosperous." His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor is evidently slow to allow the story to go down, and disposes of it in his characteristic style with a harmless word, namely "*described*." And what does this *unusual prosperity* consist in? We are by way of argument told that, "that the agriculturists fare well was evinced by the falling off in the number of suits for rent and by a marked diminution in the number of loans raised by mortgage". The young logicians of the Secretariat who jumped to a conclusion of "unusual prosperity" from premises like these would have come to quite a contrary conclusion if they had scrutinised these premises a little more closely. Have the rent-suits fallen off in numbers, because the ryots were all able to discharge their dues without intervention of the law courts? That would indeed have been a consummation devoutly to be wished for, if only it could be attained. The zemindar would have had a marvellously easy time of it if all his dues would come in quite so easily as it is gratuitously supposed they do. But the rent-suits have *not* fallen off, because the ryots are rolling in wealth and deposit the rents a year before they are due. The oppressive working of the mischievous rent law, which the Government in its goodness and wisdom has thought fit to impose upon the country, is being attended with its inevitable results, and realisation of rents is daily becoming more and more difficult. The Zemindar now despairs of getting in all his dues even with the aid of courts of law, and does not care to have recourse to them for needlessly harassing his ryots who are absolutely unable to pay. As to the diminution in the number of loans raised by mortgage, the fact can be easily accounted for. There is no money to be had in the market, and people having spare cash in the Muffasil, to whom the ryot can have recourse in times of difficulty, are fast disappearing, and these monetary transactions are growing fewer and fewer every day. It indicates not disappearance of the ryots' wants and difficulties, but painfully indicates the diminution of the wherewithal to meet these difficulties. "Successful collection of Government revenue" is also set down as another irresistible indication of prosperity. But we all know what the character of that indication is, and shall not pin our faith on it.

Another unmistakable sign of prosperity is supposed to be the falling off in the number of emigrants from Bengal and the increase of the number of those who immigrated into it in quest of service and gain. But the argument to our mind proves quite the contrary. It is a veritable marvel that emigration should go on at all, knowing, as the emigrants full well do, the wretched condition of those that have fallen into the trap already, and the opression, hardship and tyranny to which they are daily subjected by their unrelenting masters. The frightful Assam disclosures would in the nature of things not induce one out of home who had plenty there. It is those that are absolutely helpless that have to brave the chances of tyranny and oppression, and no wonder that the cooly-recruiter should find "his occupation" nearly "gone" when his misdeeds and those of his employers are known throughout the province. The wonder, as we have already said, is that emigration should go on at all after these disclosures and not that there should be a diminution in the number of the emigrants. The continuation of emigration under circumstances like these, no matter on what reduced scale, shows more powerfully than anything else the helpless state of the working classes in the province. The inhabitants of the neighbouring provinces may be still more poor, and in hopes of illusory gains flock to the metropolitan districts where plenty of work is supposed to be available. Being considerably poorer they are able to offer their labour cheap and that in its turn adds to the distress of the inhabitants proper.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

IT is some satisfaction to learn that the Emperor Frederick is now free from fever and the issuing of regular bulletins has been stopped.

THE next Criminal Sessions of the High Court will commence on the 9th instant, and will be presided over by the Hon. Justice Wilson. The murder cases against Nilmadhub Mitra and the three Mahamedan Khansamas of Komedanbagan are on board.

MR. P. NOLAN, Secretary to the Local Government in the Revenue Department, takes two months' leave, and proceeds to Darjiling. It is probable that the acting appointment will be given to Mr. H. J. S. Cotton.

WE have evidently not yet heard the last of the Jamalpore Mela case. Mr. Glazier, we understand, has laid a statement of the case before the Secretary of State.

DURING the week before last, according to Mr. Pedler's weather report, many parts of Bengal were visited by storms. In the districts of East and North Bengal especially, these storms have been very numerous and the rainfall brought in by them has been heavy.

WE are glad to learn that Sir Charles Aitchison's resignation of the Bengal Civil Service, which is announced in the last *Gazette of India*, is only a formal notification that his period of service for pension has expired. It has nothing to do with his appointment on the Viceroy's Council. The Gazette notification was ambiguous. We have to congratulate the community on their good fortune in being permitted to retain the services of Sir Charles.

WE have schools and colleges almost all over Calcutta. But there is not one in the crowded parts of Barabazar, and great inconvenience is felt by the inhabitants. The want is about to be remedied, we are glad to see, by the establishment of a juvenile school in the neighbourhood which will save the little boys the discomfort of travelling distances through the crowded thoroughfares.

A SERIOUS fire broke out on Tuesday night at the Port Commissioners' ware-house at Jetty No. 1, which is occupied by different Calcutta firms. The portion burned down was in the occupation of Messrs. Hoare Miller and Co., Andrew Yule and Finlay Muir and Co., and the loss of goods is estimated at four lacs of rupees. The loss is fortunately covered by insurance at various insurance offices, and a lac of rupees worth of goods have been saved. It is not yet known as to how the fire originated; the process of spontaneous combustion is supposed to have been at work.

ABOUT a year ago an Association was established at Pooree under the name of "*Jagannath Sanatan Dharma Rakshini Sabha.*" Sri Sankar Damoder Tirtha Swami is the president and all the principal gentlemen of the city are the members of this Association. The object of the Association is to see that the services of Jagannath are carried on properly. The Sabha specially invites Hindoo Chiefs, Zemindars and gentlemen to join it and add to the weight to its deliberations and exercise sufficient influence over managers and servants of the temple in conducting the *sheba* of Jagannath, according to established custom.

BABU RAJKUMAR SARVADHIKARI has been appointed Secretary of the British Indian Association in the place of the Hon'ble Raja Peary Mohun Mukerji, who has been elected, as we announced last week, one of the Vice-presidents of the Association.

ALONG with many other places in the Mafassil, Kanchraparab, on the Eastern Bengal State Railway, is suffering badly from water-famine. The local Municipalities ought to go in at once for deep wells as the tanks and bheels seem to fail most at the time of urgent necessity. The case of Kanchraparah is considerably worse than that of many other places since the large bheels in the neighbourhood have been dried up and the river channel is now about two miles off from where it used to be.

THE teaching staff and the managing authorities of the Ripon College are to be congratulated on the exellent results of the College at the

last B. L. Examination. The first, second and third places on the list have been taken by the students of the college, and the total number of successful candidates is also large. The success of our private colleges must be very gratifying to those interested in the development of a spirit of self-help in educational matters in this country. In this connection we regret to notice a most unworthy and uncharitable insinuation made in some quarter that the success of the College is to be attributed to the fact of one of the professors having been an examiner also. Such an aspersion should be treated with the contempt it deserves. There were four examiners and a moderator, all of whom must have leagued in favour of the College, if the insinuation had any legs to stand upon, and such an unholy alliance is an unlikely thing, to say the least of it.

SERIOUS disaffection among the students of the Madras Christian College is reported. Great commotion was caused among the Brahmins by the report that a Brahmin student at the College had embraced Christianity, and was about to be baptised by the Rev. Mr. Rae, the Secretary of the Free Church Mission. The majority of the students at the Christian College are Brahmins. Most of them met on Sunday and sent a deputation to Mr. Rae, to protest against his baptising the boy. The students allege to have been insulted and assaulted in reply and the members of one class were suspended and fined. The majority of the college students, therefore, absented themselves, and being joined by the students from other colleges held a meeting in a temple, and passed several resolutions demanding an apology for assault, also the re-admittance of the expelled students and other concessions, pledging themselves not to attend the college till concessions are granted.

THE Municipality has served notices on all the tradesmen in the principal thoroughfares in the town who have put up *khus* tatties at the steps leading into their business premises to have them removed at once, as they are considered obstructions to the thoroughfares. We are afraid that the Municipality is in the right, and whatever comfort the tatties may give to those who are snugly ensconced inside, the wet footpath and the projecting bamboo-work assuredly are a nuisance. The *tatti-wallas*, however, mean to show fight and contest the right of the Municipality to interfere with their enjoyments.

THERE was not much in the last report of the proceedings of the Bengal Council to show what view the Council has taken of the water-supply question. The Hon. Kallynath Mitra rightly wished to leave the question of the size of the ferrules to the Commissioners; but his motion was lost. Sir Henry Harrison proposed that a scale of ferrules should be suggested in the schedule, leaving the Commissioners to act upon it or not as they pleased. But this motion was also lost; and then the Hon. Mr. Macaulay proposed that a scale be prescribed by schedule, based on Mr. Kimber's latest experiments, to be departed from if the Commissioners in meeting think that a different scale should be adopted, provided the Lieutenant-Governor approves. This proposal was carried. The rate-payers will now be at the mercy of the Commissioners for their water-supply more than ever, the new 48 inches main and pumping stations notwithstanding. But that is of a piece with the whole measure.

THE first annual general meeting of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce was held on Monday, the 30th April, at the rooms of the Chamber. It was attended by the representatives of the different sections of the native mercantile community. The Report embraced a period of about thirteen months, commencing from the 2nd February, 1887, and ending on the 31st March, 1888, and dealt with the following important subjects, namely, Jubilee Address, Port Trust Amendment Bill, address of welcome to Sir Steuart C. Bayley, the early closing of the mails at the Calcutta General and Sub-Post Offices, the Calcutta and Eastern Canal Tolls, the Income-tax, the Bought and Sold Notes, Uniform Standard Measure of Length, Abolition of the Calcutta Mint, the Budget question, and the raising of the Salt-tax. It will be seen that the Chamber tried to the best of its ability to carry the objects it had in view, *viz.*, to move in all matters that seemed of any importance to the community the Chamber professes to represent.

The following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the current year:—

President—Babu Chandi Lall Singh; *Vice-Presidents*—Babu Janoki Nath Roy, Bhoyrub Chunder Roy Chowdhory, Damodar Dass Burmon, Hadjee Noor Mahommed Jackariah, R. D. Mehta, Esq., Babu Mohesh Chunder Chowdhry, Kumar Rameswar Mullick, Babus Jugger Nath Kannah and Surrut Chunder Roy Chowdhry. *Honorary Secretary*—Babu Sita Nath Roy. *Treasurer*—Babu Kanai Lall Khan.

MR. POSFORD of Barisal is a judicial luminary of no small magnitude. But the High Court does not understand and appreciate his eccentric course and he has been sharply told to mend his ways. He took proceedings against some Vakils and Pleaders practising in his court, on the ground of their having done some thing in their capacity as Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Barisal Municipality. The Collector wrote to the Municipality pointing out the necessity of having a latrine and a urinal constructed on the court-premises. The Municipality wished him to suggest a site; and the Collector suggested a site which the Municipality approved. The Judge thought that the construction of a latrine on the site in question would cause him serious inconvenience and regarded it as a step intended for annoying and insulting him. He endeavoured to control the proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners in various ways. He wrote letters threatening to take "official notice" of their proceedings, summoning the Chairman to produce papers, and passed orders when they were not produced. He next called upon particular pleaders to show cause why they should not be reported to the High Court. The High Court was moved on behalf of the pleaders; the papers in the case were sent for and further proceedings stayed. The Judge gave an explanation. The Rule issued by the High Court has been made absolute. His order has been set aside, and all his proceedings against the pleaders quashed. The High Court in its judgment has imparted some wholesome truths which we trust will have the effect of restoring Mr. Posford to his senses. The papers of the case have been sent up to Government.

HIS Honor the Lieutenant Governor presided at the Annual Meeting of the Science Association on Monday last. The annual Report was read by the Honorary Secretary, Dr. Mahendralal Sircar. We regret to learn that the Association is not receiving that support from the public which it so well deserves. The building funds of the Association are not yet enough to secure a new building for the valuable instruments and apparatus which have yet to be located in the old dilapidated house behind the new lecture gallery. Nor have any fresh subscriptions been received towards the endowment of the Ripon Professorship. Dr. Sircar made a fervent appeal to his wealthy and enlightened countrymen to come forward in aid of the Institution. The Chairman delivered an excellent address on the occasion from which we make the following extract:

"It is neither to the practical utility of science, nor to its moral and aesthetic interest, that I wish now to draw attention. It is on its infinite value as a method of disciplining the mind and equipping it for the discernment and assimilation of truth that in this place I most wish to insist. The school education of Bengal may be said to be entirely, and the college education far too largely, a purely literary education, and the result is a tendency to deal with words and expressions rather than to grapple with and examine facts. The following extract is intended to describe the mental attitude of the average English student, but I would ask you here if it is not still more applicable to those of this country.

'The young man has no notion of what it is to come into contact with nature or to lay his mind alongside of a physical fact, and try to conquer it in the way our great naval hero told his captains to master their enemies. His whole mind has been given to books, and I am hardly exaggerating if I say they are more real to him than nature. He imagines that all knowledge can be got out of books, and rests upon the authority of some master or other, nor does he entertain any misgiving that the method of learning which leads him to proficiency in the rules of grammar will not suffice to lead him to a mastery of the laws of nature.'

Now the great value of scientific training is that it enforces accurate observation and encourages the testing by reason and experiment of every belief submitted to the mind. It brings the mind directly into contact with facts, and compels it to make sure, first, that these are accurately as ascertained, and then to draw its conclusions from them, testing these again by experiment. By this means only can the best development of the reason with which we have been gifted be obtained, and it is because this hard and accurate questioning which I believe to be the best corrective for the exclusively literary training of our educational system is offered under the most favourable circumstances here to students and ex-students that I echo Dr. Mohendro Lall Sircar's strongly expressed belief that we have here a most potent regenerating institution, and as such, I trust it may flourish through long ages and hand down to posterity the name of its principal founder and Secretary."

THE following official report about the late disastrous tornado at Dacca will be of interest to our readers:—

'Although within a few hundred yards of the centre of the storm, no special violence but a peculiar noise as of a number of trains was observed. As far as can be ascertained, 118 persons were killed by the fall of houses and flying bricks and bamboos, or were drowned. It is probable that more were drowned; many of the boats destroyed had only recently arrived, and were manned by foreigners. Of wounded people, as many as 1,200 were counted, and of these 222 were seriously wounded and treated in hospital. Besides the attendance given at the hospital, 248 persons were treated in their own homes. The storm occurred on Saturday, 7th April, and when, on Sunday, as the ruins began to be cleared and more and more bodies were found, and the wounded began to pour into the hospital, something like a panic occurred for a short time, and there was some difficulty in keeping the hospital clear of the crowd. The damage done to property has been estimated at Rs. 6,78,428; nine pucca houses were completely demolished, and 148 partially so. Of cutcha houses 3,518 were completely and 61 partially destroyed, and 121 boats were wrecked. For the relief of those who have suffered by the calamity, the Nawab has generously given Rs. 10,000, and Rs. 5,000 was subscribed by Babu Raghu Nath Das, Rs 1,000 by Babu Sonatun Das, and Rs. 500 each by Babu Sri Nath Roy, and Babu Protab Chundra Bannerjee. Very shortly after the tornado visited Dacca, a part of the Munshiganj sub-division was visited by a tornado, either the same or another. The damage done by this was very severe, and it is at present reported that 66 deaths occurred, and that 128 persons were wounded. This tornado passed for a great part through open country, and did comparatively little harm to property, though, where it did strike houses it carried them away more completely than in the crowded city of Dacca."

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Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*May* 2, 1888.

GENERAL,—Babu Chunder Bhusan Chuckerbutty, Deputy Collector, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B C) of 1850, in Durbhunga, vice Babu Barhandeo Narain, transferred.

Mr J F Bradbury, District and Sessions Judge, Backergunge, is appointed temporarily to be additional District Judge, 24-Pergunnahs, vice Mr R F Rampini.

Mr Bradbury is also appointed under section 3, Act X of 1870, to perform the functions of a Judge under that Act within the local limits of Calcutta and the District of the 24-Pergunnahs.

Moulvi Abdus Salam, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hughly, is allowed leave for one month, under section 138-2 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Mohanund Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted temporarily to the sudder station of the Hughly District.

Babu Krishna Kally Mookerji, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for nine days, under rule 2, section 138 of the civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. M. Finucane, Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. E. W. Collin, Settlement Officer, Srinaggur and Banaili Estates in Bhaugulpore, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Director of the Department of Land Records and Agricultural, Bengal, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. M. Finance, or until further orders.

Mr. T. L. Jenkins, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gya, is allowed furlough for ten months, under section 50 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

The order of the 17th ultimo, transfering Babu Bepin Behary Mukerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhaugulpore, to Furridpore, is cancelled.

Mr. A. Earle, C. S., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for five months on sick certificate.

In modification of the order of the 27th March last, Babu Madan Gopal Singh, Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to Manbhum.

This cancels the order of the 24th ultimo, transferring Babu Gopi Krishna Lall, Sub-Deputy Collector, Goddo, Santaal Pergunnahs, to Manbhum.

Babu Mohendro Chunder Mozumdar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kishoregunje, Mymensingh, is transferred to Furridpore, and is posted to the sudder station of that District.

Babu Otul Chunder Chatterji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bishenpore Bankura, is transferred to Mymensingh, and is appointed have charge of the Kishoregange Sub Division of that District.

Mr. Asutosh Gupta, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Munshiganje, Dacca, is allowed leave for two months and fifteen days under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Advertisements.

WANTED a Hindu Assistant to the Health Officer of Pooree on a salary of-Rs 100 per mensem. Candidates must have a Medical Education and have passed at least the examination of L. M. S. The officer will also have to act as Food Inspector of the Pooree Municipality. Aplications with copies of testimonials will be received by the under-signed up to the 31st May 1888.

Dy Magistrate In charge,
For Magistrate.

Pooree Magistracy,
The 28th April 1888.

NOTICE.

Persons exercising any Trade, Profession or Calling within the town, and all itinerant Dealers, Hawkers and Pedlars are reminded that they should at once apply for Licenses in accordance with the 3rd Schedule of Act IV. of 1876 for the official year 1888-89, as all licenses granted in 1887-88 expired on the 31st of March last until new assessments are made for 1888-89. Assessments for the previous year will hold good, and any notice or notices served for such assessments should be considered as valid for all purposes of law for assessments for 1888-89 and be dealt with accordingly.

Notice is hereby given that under Section 67 of Act IV. (B. C.) of 1876 Licenses for Carriages, Horses, Ponies or Mules kept within the town for the half year from 1st of April 1888, should be taken out at once. To avoid mistakes, applicants for licenses, who do not keep their carriages or horses at the place from whence the application is written, are requested to note the place or places where they keep their conveyances and horses. Persons failing to take out licenses will render themselves liable to the penalties of the law.

By order,
R. CHATTERJEE,
License Officer.

SCHEDULE.

	Per Half-year. Rs.	As.	P.
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses	12	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage, after the first, two-thirds of the above rate ...	8	0	0
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by one horse, or pony or mule, or a pair of ponies or mules under thirteen hands	6	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage, after the first, two-thirds of the above rate ...	4	0	0
For every two wheeled carriage ...	6	0	0
For every horse (*not a race horse*) pony or mule	6	0	0
For every race horse... ...	12	0	0
For every pony or mule under thirteen hands	2	0	0

NOTE.—Animals under eleven hands in height, and Carriages, the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter, are exempted.

Signature and Residence.

☞ No application for a license will be received unless accompained with the amount payable.

NOTICE

Is hereby given that the registration of Carts, Hackeries and other wheeled Vehicles without springs, must be effected for the 1st half-year of the official year 1888-89 commencing from the 1st of April 1888, under Section 83 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876, and that a fee of Rs. 4 will be required at the time of registration for each such Cart. Hackery, &c., under Section 85 of Act IV. (B. C) of 1876.

By order.
R. CHATTERJEE,
Registrar of Carts and Hackeries.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA

Sealed tenders for supply of 4 lacs cubic feet well pugged and well burnt Jhama khoa during 1888 89 will be received and opened by the Vice-chairman in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend at 2 P. M. in the 17th "May 1888.

2. The Jhama khoa is to be broken so as to pass freely in all directions through a ring $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter to be delivered and properly stacked at the Municipal Depots at Bagbazar, Nimtolah and along Circular Road as may be directed.

3. If stacking along Circular Road is directed Municipal waggons will be made available for carriage to the Depots and the Jhama will in that case be unloaded at the cost of the Commissioners.

4. Each tender may be for 10,000 c.ft or in multiples ofthat amount, the rate per 100 cubic feet khoa delivered and stacked at the Depots is to be stated in the tender, and earnest money of Rs. 100 for every 10,000 cubic feet of khoa to be tendered for, is to be enclosed with the tender.

5. The successful tenderer must sign a deed of Contract duly stamped and registered at his own expense.

6. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

7. Any further information required may be obtained on application.

Udoy Narain Singh
Superintendent of Stores

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction on the 2nd of June next at the hour of 12 o'clock at noon pursuant to a decree dated 24th April 1884 and on orders of the said Court dated 25th May 1886, respectively made in suit No. 168 of 1884 (wherein Doorga Prosonno Ghose was plaintiff and Shurruth Coomar Dutt was defendant) the following properties belonging to the estate of Shurruth Coomar Dutt deceased the husband of the said defendant Sreemutty Kherode Comaree Dassee.

1. All that undivided one-fourth part or share of and in the land and premises No. 31 Lower Chitpore Road, Fouzdaree Ballakhana in the Town of Calcutta containing by estimation 1 Biggah 19 Cattahs and bounded on the west by Chitpore Road, on the north by Collootolla Sreet, on the east partly by Hurrinbaree Lane and partly by Hackney Carriage Stand and on the South partly by Municipal Bathing platform and Municipal Latrines partly by the property of Harrannad Shaw and partly by the property of Hajee Baba Catharine.

2. All that undevided $\frac{12}{2160}$ two thousand one hundred and sixtieth parts or shares of Shurruth Coomar Dutt and in the dwelling house with the land appertaining thereto containing by estimation 4 Beggahs 4 cattahs and 5 Chittacks more or less situate at and being numbered 78 Nimtollah Ghat Street in the Town of Calcutta and butted and bounded on the North partly by Ramjan Ostagars Lane and partly by land with garden No. 3 Ramjan Ostagar's Lane. on the South partly by Nimtolla Ghaut Street and partly by Issur Chunder Sircar's dwelling house, on the East partly by the tenanted land No. 77 Nimtolla Ghaut Street, partly by a Government drain and partly by the dwelling house of Nundo Lall Soor, Gobin Chunder Gooya, Kassi Nath Bysack, Nitta Nund Dey, Lally Chand Bysack, Nobin Chunder Ghose and Dwarka Nauth Dey, and on the West partly by the dwelling house of the late Issur Chunder Sircar and partly by the tenanted land of Shaik Fyza Ally and Shaik Mahomed Ally.

3. All that undivided $\frac{12}{2160}$ two thousand one hundred and sixtieth parts or shares of and in all that piece or parcel of land or ground containing by estimation 2 Biggahs 2 Cattahs and 2 Chittacks more or less, situate at and being numbered 3 formerly numbered 2 Ramjan Ostagar's Lane, in Calcutta and butted and bounded on the North partly by the house of Manick Bose, partly by the lands of Shib Chunder Bose, Bisso Nauth Dutt and Kassi Nauth Dutt, on the East partly by the house of Gobind Chunder Dutt partly by the house of Gocool Money Dabee and partly by the house No. 78 Nimtolla Ghaut Street, on the South by the land-house and premises No. 78 Nimtolla Ghaut Street, and on the West partly by the house of Ramjan Ostagar and partly by Ramjan Ostagar's Lane.

4. All that undivided moiety or half part or share of and in the Upper roomed House together with the piece or parcel of land or ground on part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation about 10 cattahs more or less situate at and being No. 11 Nimtolla Ghaut Street in Calcutta (subject to the right and interest of Sreemutty Kristo Bhabini Dassee the mother of the said Surruth Chunder Dutt on partition) and bounded on the North partly by the house of Greesh Chunder Bose and partly by the Royalty land of Chunder Mookerjee, on the East partly by the land of Gopaul Chunder Sircar and partly by the house of Kally Kristo Dutt, on the West by the land of the plaintiff, and on the South partly by the land of the plaintiff, partly by Ackrabaree and partly by the land of Ramnidhi Mookerjee.

All that undivided one sixteenth part or share of and in the following Zemindaries and land.

5. Pergunnah Sultanpore Khoroorish in the district of Khoolna, Backergunge and Fureedpore being No. 171 in the Towzie of the Collector of Khoolna containing 48 Mauzahs with Julkur, Bonekur, Falker and other rights the Government revenue of the said Towjee No. 171 is Rs. 3683-8 a year, besides Cesses.

6. All that Zemindary Belphoolia and Khoroorish *in Zillah Khoolna being No. 172 in the Towjee of the* Collector of Khoolna containing 38 Mowjahs with Julkur, Bonkur, Falkur and other rights the Government revenue of the said Towjee No. 172 is Rs. 801-0-6 a year, besides Cesses.

7. Kismut Talook Modhoodoya in the Zillah of Khoolna being No. 576 in the Towjee of the Collector of Khoolna the Government revenue of which is Rs. 16-7-0 besides Cesses.

8. Chittra Nuddee Chur or Mehal Ghose Gully Chur, in Zilla Khoolna, being No. 382 of the Towjee of the Collector of Khoolna, the Government revenue of which is Rs. 62-12-0 a year besides Cesses.

9. Lowidaha Bundobustee Chur in Zilla Backergunge being No 6314 in the Towzie of the Collector of Backergunge the Government revenue of which is Rs. 459 a year, besides Cesses.

10. Talook Kismut Samesoor in Zillah Fureedpore being No. 2773 in the Towzie of the Collector of Fureedpore standing in the names of Ram Nursingho Ghose and others the revenue of which is Rs. 1-12-6 a year, besides Cesses.

11. Kismut Maliratha Talook being No. 2776 in the Towzie of the Collector of Fureedpore standing in the names of Kally Sanker Roy and others in Ziliah Fureedpore the Government revenue of which is Rs. 1-8-0 a year, besides Cesses.

12. Kismut Gopeenauthpore Talook Nundorampore in Zilla Fureedpore being No, 2767 in the Towzie of the Collector of Furreedpore the Government revenue of which is Rs. 1-11-9 a year, besides Cesses.

13. All that the purchased Mowrasee land and Basabatty in Mokam Kusba in Zilla Jessore Sub-Registration district Bagarhat and Thana Bagarhat the rent payable in respect of which is Rs. a year.

The abstract of the title and conditions of sale may be seen at the office of the Registrar of High Courts Original Jurisdiction and at the office of Messrs Swinhoe and Chunder, Attorneys for the plaintiff on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

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Calcutta, Jan. 1888.

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জ্বর, কাশী, মর্জ্জাগত জ্বর প্রভৃতি জ্বর বহুমূত্র স্নায়ুদৌর্ব্বল্য এবং অপরের অসাধ্য ক্ষতরোগ প্রভৃতি কঠিন পীড়া সমূহের অমোঘ এবং অব্যর্থ মহৌষধ এক সপ্তাহ ব্যবহার করিলেই ঔষধের গুণাগুণ জানতে পারা যাইবে। বিবিধ ডাক্তার কবিরাজ ও সম্ভ্রান্ত লোক এই মহৌষধ ব্যবহার করিয়া আরোগ্যলাভ করিয়াছেন এবং ভূয়ঃ ভূয়ঃ প্রশংসালিপি প্রেরণ করিয়াছেন তন্মধ্যে দুই এক খানি পা করিলেই সমস্ত অবগত হইবেন। ঔষধের মুল্য সপ্তাহ তিন টাকা ডাকমাশুল।০ চারি আনা। সেবনের নিয়ম ঔষধের সহিত পাঠান হইবে।

শ্রীমাধব চন্দ্র দত্ত
৭০ নং দুর্গাচরণ মিত্রের ষ্ট্রীট দরজিপাড়া, কলিকাতা।

Calcutta 26th February 1885

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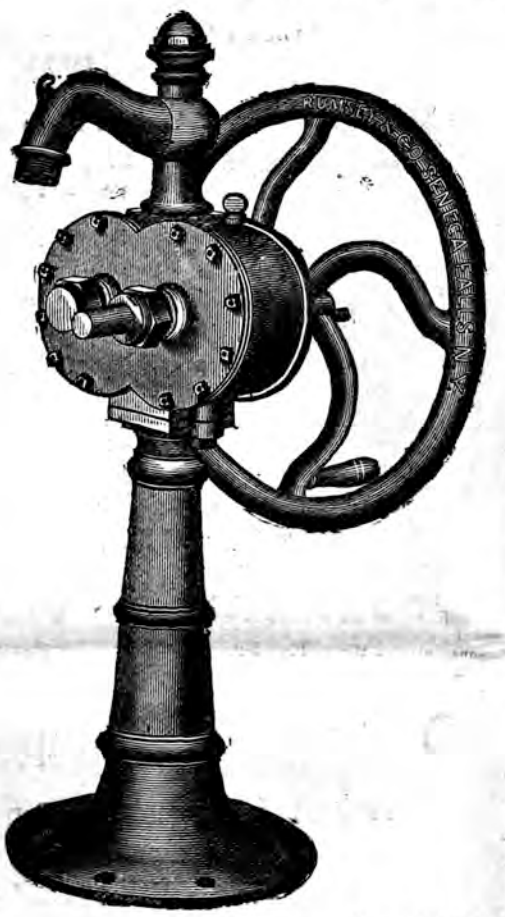

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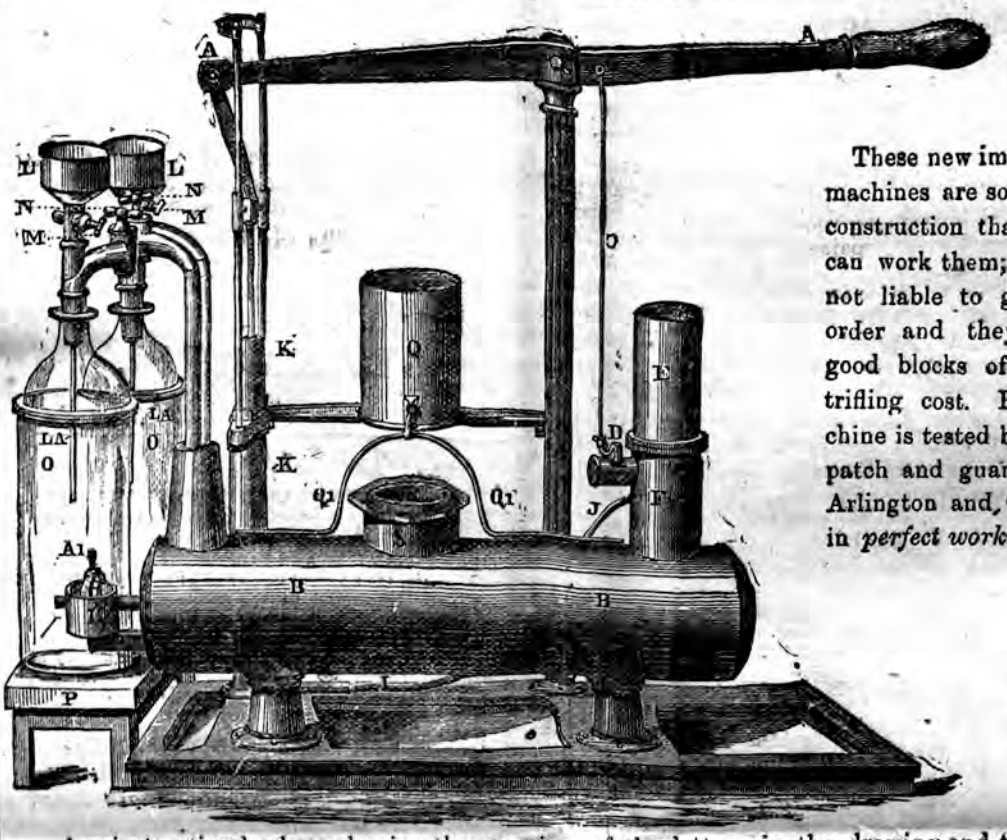

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